

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 17833 271337Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----093383 271338Z /64
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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 17833

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R) EG IS
SUBJECT: MRS. VANCE'S SCHEDULE - CAIRO

REF: STATE 188298

1. IN ASSESSING POSSIBILITIES FOR MRS. VANCE'S PROGRAM
AUGUST 8, EMBASSY SUGGESTS SHORT VISIT TO EGYPTIAN
MUSEUM MIGHT BE USEFULLY COMBINED WITH TOUR OF TWO
ACCESSIBLE ISLAMIC MOSQUES -- E.G., IBN TULUN AND SULTAN
HASSAN. AS MOSQUES REPRESENT TWO DISTINCT PERIODS
(879 A.D. AND 1356 A.D.) THEY OFFER EXCELLENT CONTRAST
IN ARCHITECTURAL AND DECORATIVE STYLES. GAYER ANDERSON
HOUSE (AT BACK DOOR OF IBN TULUN) COULD ALSO BE
VISITED, AS THIS OFFERS FASCINATING INSIGHTS INTO LIVES
OF 18TH CENTURY NOBILITY. TOUR WOULD ALLOW FOR 45
MINUTE TO HOUR MUSEUM VISIT IN WHICH HIGH SPOTS COULD
BE EASILY SEEN. ENTIRE PROGRAM WOULD TAKE ROUGHLY
2 1/2 TO 3 HOURS, INCLUDING TRAVEL TIME. SHOULD
MRS. VANCE PREFER MORE EMPHASIS ON POST-PHARONIC PERIOD,
COPTIC MUSEUM COULD BE SUBSTITUTED FOR EGYPTIAN MUSEUM.

2. PUBLICIZED LUNCH DURING RAMADAN POSES INNUMERABLE
PR PROBLEMS AS EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT TRADITIONALLY ADHERES
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TO SPIRIT/PRACTICE OF FAST. SHOULD GOE PROVIDED ESCORT
(POSSIBLY MRS. KAMAL) NOT OBSERVE RAMADAN AN INFORMAL
PRIVATE LUNCH MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, BUT THIS WOULD HAVE
TO BE WORKED OUT DIRECTLY WITH THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED.
IN ORDER AVOID EMBARRASSING EGYPTIANS, MRS. ELITS WOULD
BE PLEASED HOST LUNCHEON AT RESIDENCE. MRS. KAMEL AND
MRS. GHALI MIGHT BE INVOLVED, BUT WE WOULD MAKE CLEAR

IT UNDERSTOOD IF EITHER OR BOTH FELT UNABLE TO ATTEND.
MRS. GHALI IS IN ANY CASE A CONVERTED COPTIC, HENCE
FASTING RULE WOULD NOT BE APPLICABLE.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE RE
ABOVE SUGGESTIONS SOONEST. EILTS

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